



# The Prospector's Quill

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2018

## Lil' Nuggets

**Ore** - is defined as a naturally occurring material from which a mineral, or minerals, of economic value can be extracted.

**Grade** - The relative quantity or percentage of ore mineral content in a body of rock. For gold usually expressed as ounces of gold per ton.

**Lode deposit** - A mineral deposit in consolidated rock as opposed to most placer deposits which are in unconsolidated materials

**Bench deposits** - are created when gold reaches a stream bed. Gold accumulations in an old stream bed that are high are called bench deposits. They can be found on higher slopes that drain into valleys.

**Gold Spot price**  
**January 20, 2019**  
**\$1281.20**



### Gold Panning (Chalk Creek Canyon. CO)

The Chalk Creek canyon was once home to the Chalk Creek mining district, one of Colorado's richest mining districts. During the 1870's and 1880's the towns of Hortense, Alpine, St. Elmo, Romley and Hancock thrived as a result of the discovery of gold and silver-laden ore.

Most all of the historic mines are located on private property and visitors cannot access these mines without property owners permission.

Gold panning is permitted along the Chalk Creek. The best section for panning is located west of Cascade campground.

#### Directions:

From Buena Vista, Colorado, travel south for about 7 miles on Highway 285. Turn right onto County Road 162, and travel west passing the Mt. Princeton Hot Springs resort (private), for 6 miles. An information kiosk is located on the right side of the road, just across from the Colorado Trail (#1776)

### Gold Prospectors of the Rockies

It is with profound sadness that we report the death of Louise Smyth, the owner of Golden Detectors. Louise passed away last night after an extended illness.

Our most sincere condolences are with her partner Bill Chapman. Our mining community has lost another good friend...!! RIP good friend..!

Posted January 18, 2019 @ 5:03PM

trailhead.

#### General Notes:

Several interpretive signs tell the story of the Chalk Creek canyon and its history and geology. Chalk Creek canyon is a popular visitor attraction during the summer months.

#### Parking:

Parking is provided for 4-5 vehicles at the information kiosk.

#### Accessibility:

There are no accessible facilities at this site.

Camping is restricted to developed campgrounds in the Chalk Creek canyon. Dispersed camping is permitted above the town site of St. Elmo or at the town site of Hancock.

No passes or permits required.

If you need other questions answered contact the

Salida Ranger District: 719-539-3591

Visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov>



## Mining High Grade Ore

February 12, 2019

7:00pm—9:00pm

**Speaker: Calvin Johnson**

WMMI's February 12 speaker is Calvin Johnson with Gold Prospectors Of Colorado (GPOC). His presentation will be an accounting of his "Experience of a Lifetime" in the recovery of a quartz vein that assayed at 2281.7 ounces per ton containing crystalline (93.887 fine) gold wires. In layman's terms that equals \$2.8 million dollars per ton. The gold is in sugar quartz, which is very rare on its own.

**RSVP to [rsvp@wmmi.org](mailto:rsvp@wmmi.org)**  
or 719-488-0880

225 North Gate Blvd.,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921  
719.488.0880

# Blast from the Past

## A Novel Mining Scheme

*Silver Cliff Rustler, April 23, 1902*

Methods of gold recovery are developing with startling rapidity, but the following report taken from a recent issue of a New York daily paper is particularly interesting. It looks as if Mr. Mulhatton had turned his reportorial energies in the direction of mining enterprises: A novel scheme has been discovered by several farmers in the Big Hole River, in Wyoming, for saving the flour gold along that stream, which had defied all the efforts of ingenuity of miners for many years. On the big bench which lies in the Big Hole Basin, a few miles from Wisdom, there is an immense, glacial moraine, covering an area of several thousand acres, and tests which have been made show that this immense deposit carries a value of about \$2 in gold to the ton.

The gold is as fine as flour, and will float on water. Often in many years prospectors have attempted to save the gold by ground sluicing, panning, washing it over blankets, and every other means known to placer miners, but all proved failures. It was the conclusion that the gold could not be saved and would lie forever just without the reach of man. A few years ago a land company acquired possession of several thousand acres of this land and began breaking it up and seeding it down for grass. Recently an accidental discovery was made of the means of saving the fine gold by several men engaged in ploughing. One of the ploughs in use on the ranch was an old one which had been bolted together with copper bolts.

Part of the ranch which was ploughed up was an old placer dump at the mouth of Moose Creek, which had been washed over a number of years by placer miners, who had made an earnest effort to save values in the old moraine, but without success. It fell to the lot of the old copper bolted plough to turn over the old dump. One day the ploughman noticed something peculiar about the appearance of the bolt heads on the old plough. He investigated and found that on each of the bolt heads a chunk of amalgam had formed. He removed them and had the amalgam retorted, and secured about 50 cents in gold from each bolt head. The ranchers now believe they have made a discovery by which all the gold in the old moraine may be saved. They have had all their ploughs copper plated on the under side of the mould board, and are now engaged in ploughing and reploughing the old glacial moraine, and expect to make a fortune in gold instead of hay.

Mining and Engineering Journal

## Product Review



Field Testing:

### Prospecting Gear

by Andrew C. Hawkins

It's summer. It's hot. You may be prospecting in a stream, a dry wash, or a gulch. Maybe you have water—maybe not. Rarely do you get to set up your sluice of choice within inches of your favorite ground. In comes the 5 gallon bucket. You know, those orange, blue, white, or if you are lucky, pickle scented red, tools that we all horde in our garages, in our trunks, or in backseats on prospecting trips.



Empty, the 5 gal bucket is as light as a feather. Full of paydirt, however, you may wish you went to the gym more often! Thankfully, there is a solution! The Bucket Buddy is an economical, sturdy alternative to other bucket hauling carts. The Bucket Buddy is made of industrial grade steel. This tool carries two 5 gallon buckets, fully loaded. You will never carry a bucket again with a Bucket Buddy by your side! With its two solid rubber 8" wheels, it does well off— and on—road. When it is not filled with two buckets of your favorite earth, use it around the house for painting, tools, or gardening or just load it up with baseballs for the kids' batting practice. You can order this \$40 miracle at Amazon.com or get it directly from.

[www.thebucketbuddy.com](http://www.thebucketbuddy.com).



## Hg

Mercury is a chemical element with symbol Hg and atomic number 80.

It is commonly known as quicksilver and was formerly named hydrargyrum. A heavy, silvery d-block element, mercury is the only metallic element that is liquid at standard conditions for temperature and pressure.

Mercury occurs in deposits throughout the world mostly as cinnabar (mercuric sulfide). The red pigment vermilion is obtained by grinding natural cinnabar or synthetic mercuric sulfide.

Mercury remains in use in scientific research applications and in amalgam for dental restoration in some locales. It is also used in fluorescent lighting. Electricity passed through mercury vapor in a fluorescent lamp produces short-wave ultraviolet light, which then causes the phosphor in the tube to fluoresce, making visible light.

Mercury poisoning can result from exposure to water-soluble forms of mercury (such as mercuric chloride or methylmercury), by inhalation of mercury vapor, or by ingesting any form of mercury.

~ Wikipedia,

## Where to Dig...

Dig where the gold is...unless you just need some exercise.

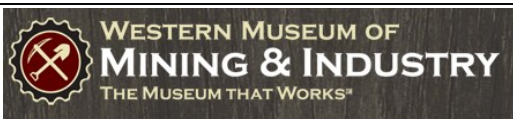
~John M. Capozzi

## Gold is Where You Find It

No matter what the geologist says, gold is where you find it.

~Harry Oliver





## WMMI News

[www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org)

### Mine Lighting

February 21, 2019

Join us to learn the many way that lit the mines.

RSVP to [rsvp@wmmi.org](mailto:rsvp@wmmi.org)  
or 719-488-0880

225 North Gate Blvd.,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921  
719.488.0880

Visiting Hours  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.,  
Monday-Saturday Year Round

## Sluicing



### Sluicing Clear Creek

As appearing in The Gold Nugget, May 1997  
by Steve Cychosz

When using a sluice box in streams where you expect to find flakes and, just maybe, nuggets, you can run about three inches of fast water through the sluice. On Clear Creek, however, we have a lot of

material through your box, but will have all the flour gold and any flakes or nuggets that come along, too--it all adds up!

The way you know that your sluice is full and should be washed into a 5-gallon bucket, is when you have black sand packed behind the riffles and beginning

to cover the carpet.

To check to see if you are getting all the gold you expect, fill your pan with the tailings at the end of your sluice and check them for any gold you might be losing. With this method, you are not likely to find anything that was not trapped.

by Steve Cychosz ,  
May,1997



flour gold and you're going to lose it out the end of the sluice if you run it with fast water.

Although you may trap and recover gold flakes, fast water in a sluice on Colorado's Clear Creek will cause the flour gold to become suspended in the flow and it will not have time to settle behind the riffles. Because we do not recover much in the way of larger flakes and nuggets over a quarter of an inch in Clear Creek, but do have an abundance of flour gold, you should adjust your sluice box to have only about two inches of water running through it with just a small wave over each riffle. The sluice may be even with the water or only tipped at a very slight angle of just an inch or two over the entire length of the box.

Prior to using your sluice, classify your material down to 1/4 of an inch. Use a trowel to feed the classified material into the sluice, two full trowels at a time. Then wait a minute or two for the material to run through the box before adding more.

You will not lose any gold if you run your sluice box this way in Clear Creek. True, you won't be moving as much

### Gold is Where You Find It

Another way to find a gold mine is with a gun. The Buckskin Joe district was discovered in 1860 when a prospector shot at a deer, missed, and hit a gold mine. This is when Buckskin Joe was northwest of Fairplay, not rim of the Royal Gorge.

~Al Look

A poverty-stricken prospector named Long near Leadville in 1867 went out to shoot his breakfast. When his deer kicked up some dirt that looked promising, another pay lode was found.

~Al Look

### Treasure Quote

*There comes a time in every rightly constructed boy's life when he has a raging desire to go somewhere and dig for hidden treasure.*

~Mark Twain



## Updated BLM Mining Claim Packet

Revised September 10, 2018  
4.8MB, pdf formatted, 91 pages

For a copy Click on the link below;  
**Mining Claim Packet**

The above link will bring you directly to the BLM site to start the PDF Download.



# GPOC Board & Committee Chairs



## GPOC BOARD

### President

Marty Allen

[gpocPresident@gmail.com](mailto:gpocPresident@gmail.com)

### Vice President

Charles Engler

[gpocVicePresident@gmail.com](mailto:gpocVicePresident@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Jo Manning

[gpocSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gpocSecretary@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Wayne Wittkopp

[gpocTreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:gpocTreasurer@gmail.com)

### One Year Trustee

Calvin Johnson

[gpocTrustee1yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpocTrustee1yr@gmail.com)

### Two Year Trustee

Paul Burns

[gpocTrustee2yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpocTrustee2yr@gmail.com)

### Three Year Trustee

Joe Manning

[gpocTrustee3yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpocTrustee3yr@gmail.com)

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Membership

Elise Pearce

[Membershipgpoc@gmail.com](mailto:Membershipgpoc@gmail.com)

### Raffle

Wayne Wittkopp

[gpocRaffle@gmail.com](mailto:gpocRaffle@gmail.com)

### Claims Committee

Bud Yoder

[gpocClaims@gmail.com](mailto:gpocClaims@gmail.com)

### Championship Committee

Dermot Haley

[gpocChampionship@gmail.com](mailto:gpocChampionship@gmail.com)

### Speakers

Lou Espinosa

[gpocSpeakers@gmail.com](mailto:gpocSpeakers@gmail.com)

### Planning Committee

Del Hess II

[gpocPlanning@gmail.com](mailto:gpocPlanning@gmail.com)

### The Quill Editor

Steve Cormier

[gpocQuillEditor@gmail.com](mailto:gpocQuillEditor@gmail.com)

### Associate Quill Editor

Steven Veatch

The Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) was founded around 1974 as a non-profit organization for recreational gold prospectors in the Colorado area. Our membership at any given time has grown to over 600 members and continues to grow across the Front Range, the nation, and even the world!

# GPOC Outings & Events Planner

In response to feedback from our members, we are adding a rolling three-month planning calendar to each issue of the Quill. Now you can see and plan for events months in advance—and make requests to the Planning Committee for outings and events in YOUR club! Also check the next page and the GPOC web site at [WWW.GPOC.CLUB](http://WWW.GPOC.CLUB) for more info on events including location and start times.

## February 2018

## The Prospector's Quill Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan, 27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	<b>Feb 16, 2019</b> All Member Outing, Clear Creek, CO  <b>Feb 23 &amp; 24, 2019</b> Sportsman's Boat and Outdoor Expo @ Colorado Springs Event Center.	5	6	7 GPOC Board Meeting	8	9
10		12 WMMI Mining High Grade Ore By Calvin Johnson	13 GPOC General Membership Meeting	14	15	16 GPOC All Member Outing Clear Creek, CO
17		19	20	21 WMMI Underground Light Exhibit	22	23 Sportsman's Expo
24 Sportsman's Expo	25	26	27 GPOC Planning Committee	28	Mar, 1	2

# March 2018

## The Prospector's Quill Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	Mar, 1	2
3	<b>March 23, 2019</b> New Members Orientation  <b>March 23, 2019</b> Power Class @ WMMI  <b>March 24, 2019</b> New Members Outing, Clear Creek, CO.	5	6	7 GPOC Board Meeting	8	9
10		12 WMMI Cripple Creek Photography By Ben Elick	13 GPOC General Membership Meeting	14	15	16 WMMI Family Day Science
17		19	20	21	22	23 New Member Orientation
24 New Member Outing Clear Creek, CO	25	26	27 GPOC Planning Committee	28	29	30

- **GPOC Board Meetings** are held the 1st Thursday of each month at **7 pm**, Gold Hill Police Station, 955 Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, (access from W. Moreno Ave.). GPOC Members only.
- **GPOC General Membership meetings** are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at **7 pm**, Elks Lodge, 3400 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO. The General Public is welcome!
- **GPOC Planning Committee** Meeting. **7 pm** at Village Inn, Garden of Gods. & 125, CO Springs. GPOC Members Only.
- **GPOC Claims Committee** Meetings are held at WMMI at **10am**, the last Saturday of the month. GPOC Members Only.
- **GPOC New Member Orientations** are held on Saturdays indicated at 10am @ WMMI. March and June are also followed by a GPOC Power Class—where you can study the GPOC Rules, Ethics, and Regulations—and earn discounts on Power Permits.
- **GPOC New Member Outings** are held the Sunday after New member Orientations. Meet @ 9am in the Cabela's parking lot, off the Ridgeway Parkway exit off I-25, south side of Denver

# April 2019

## The Prospector's Quill Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar, 31	1	2	3	4 GPOC Board Meeting	5	6
7	8	9 WMMI Poker Alice History By Liz Duckworth	10 GPOC General Membership Meeting	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 GPOC Planning Committee	25	26	27
28	29	30	May, 1	2	3	4





## Gold Prospectors of Colorado

PO Box 1593

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

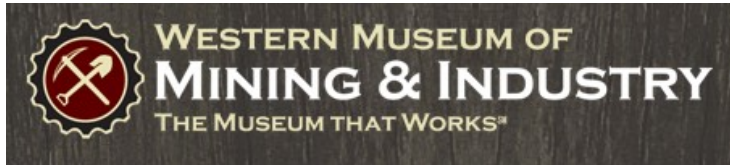
Phone: 719-651-7930

E-mail: MembershipGPOC@gmail.com

Visit us on the web!

<http://www.gpoc.club>

Prospecting Colorado since 1974.



**GOLD** - Gold is a chemical element with symbol Au and atomic number 79, making it one of the higher atomic number elements that occur naturally. In its purest form, it is a bright, slightly reddish yellow, dense, soft, malleable, and ductile metal. Chemically, gold is a transition metal and a group 11 element. It is one of the least reactive chemical elements and is solid under standard conditions. Gold often occurs in free elemental form, as nuggets or grains, in rocks, in veins, and in alluvial deposits. Less commonly, it occurs in minerals as gold compounds, often with tellurium. There is gold in the ocean. Gold in the ocean is so dilute that its concentration is on the order of parts per trillion.

Prospecting Colorado since 1974.

# THE ROCK DOC

AT PROSPECTORS VILLAGE  
between Buena Vista and Salida

## (719) 539-2019

**Metal Detecting for Beginners**  
Come by the shop for all your metal detecting needs!  
Visit our Facebook Page for more details on classes  
or email me - [cindy@therockdoc.net](mailto:cindy@therockdoc.net)

The Rock Doc  
17897 US Hwy. 285  
Nathrop, Colorado 81236

Join our email list at "[therockdoc.net](http://therockdoc.net)"



Gold Prospectors of Colorado  
PO Box 1593  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

